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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :  
SHIMIZU et al. :  
Serial No. 09/403,429 : Group Art Unit 1615  
Filed on October 20, 1999 : Examiner TRAN,S  
For RAPIDLY DISINTEGRABLE SOLID PREPARATION

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.132

Honorable Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks, Washington, D.C.

Sir,

I, Jun-ichi WATANABE declare:

That I am a citizen of Japan residing at 1-2-10-1407, Kami-cho,  
Ageo-shi (Ageo City), Saitama Prefecture, Japan;

That I was born on February 24, 1948 in Niigata Prefecture, Japan;

That I graduated from Nagaoka Industrial High Occupational School,  
Applied Chemistry Course in March of 1968;

That I have been employed by ShinEtsu Chemical Co., Ltd. since April  
of 1968 and was engaged in the research and development of  
polyvinylchloride until 1989;

That I have been engaged in marketing and sale of celluloses in  
Cellulose Department of said Company;

That I have been appointed Head of said Cellulose Department in said  
Company since July of 2001;

That prior to July 28, 1998, ShinEtsu had not commercially supplied  
L-HPC having a hydroxypropoxyl content in the range of 5-7%;

That prior to July 28, 1998, ShinEtsu had supplied only L-HPC having  
the following ranges of hydroxypropoxyl content:

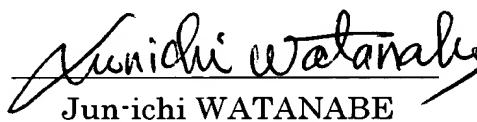
7.0 – 9.9% as LH-22 or LH-32

10.0 – 12.9% as LH-21 or LH-31 and

13.0 – 16.0% as LH-20 or LH-30;

It is declared by the undersigned that all statements made herein of his knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signed this 6 day of December , 2001.

  
Jun-ichi WATANABE